Amendment.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—*Omit all the words after 'should not' and instead add the following: "On the ground of their degree alone, be given preference over others with the necessary qualification, in the matter of appointment as teachers in Primary Schools.*

13. Remission of Land Tax.

Mr E. Ikkanda Warriar.—I move the resolution standing in my name:—"This Council recommends to the Government to give remission of land tax for lands which are not cultivated this year." By lands which are not cultivated this year, I mean the kole lands, because the land tax on other lands has already been levied by this time. There are special difficulties connected with the cultivation of kole-lands and that is why I brought forward this resolution. In these days it has become very difficult for the kole owners to meet even the actual cost of cultivation. I think, that out of the 14 thousand acres of kole-lands, there are about 2 to 3 thousand acres of land which have not been cultivated this year. Formerly before the Settlement, the practice was to collect revenue only from these kole lands which were actually cultivated. They used to have a special kandezhuthu every year. Now, after the Settlement, all the lands were assessed permanently and taxes were collected whether they were actually cultivated or not. The cost of cultivation according to the Government itself vide answer to one of the questions comes from 25 to 35 rupees per acre. The average yield per acre will be about 100 to 110 paras of paddy. In these days when paddy is sold at 5 and 6 annas per para there won't be any margin left even in the best of lands, so much so many land owners were compelled not to cultivate at all. The only inducement to the many who have actually cultivated this year is the anxiety for the payment of taxes. If they were exempted from the payment of taxes, many of them would not have cultivated the land at all. Some of these lands which are not cultivated now may probably be converted into kuttadan lands. Even then there is every likelihood of some lands remaining uncultivated. I request that the Government will be pleased to give them some remission, especially in view of the low price of paddy and the high cost of cultivation.

Mr. C. N. Ittiravi Nambudiri.—I second it.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—I have not much to speak. The Hon'ble Member expatiated on the uneconomic results of kole cultivation this year and he wanted relief to be given only to those who have not cultivated koles,

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and he said that 3000 acres or so remained uncultivated. I do not know whether the figure is correct. For kole lands the average rate of assessment is Rs. 4 per acre. That is for jenmies. The fact is as I said yesterday, namely vicissitudes of season and we presume that the lands will not be cultivated once in five years. Lands are left uncultivated for two main reasons. I would call them (1) remunerative waste. That means they leave lands fallow to get a better crop. Then there is (2) what is known as disputed waste. There will be quarrels and they won't cultivate. For remunerative waste and for disputed waste, no remission, nothing of the kind can be sanctioned. And then again what the Hon'ble Member wants to make out is that the cost of cultivation charges will be heavy and the price of paddy is very low. Some people have therefore refrained from cultivating their lands. So far as I am concerned, I am in touch with kole cultivation, and I don't think there have been any such case. But the policy of the Government is not to give wholesale remissions in such cases if at all there is any. If there is any real distress due to floods without any request from anybody we give remissions. So far no request has ever come to me for any remmission from any kole cultivator saying that he did not cultivate. There is no logic or reasoning in the resolution. I cannot accept the resolution. If I am satisfied that there is any widespread distress I will certainly go in to the rescue of kole owners. It is always open to the cultivators to approach me; I have myself got sufficient authority in the Land Revenue Manual to take steps for granting remission when any distress is proved to exist; then the Government has always been granting remission and will continue to grant the same.

Mr E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Does distress mean flood alone ?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—This is all remunerative waste or disputed waste and no remission is allowed in such cases for the reasons given in the Land Revenue Manual.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Will the Government be pleased to consider cases which are not remunerative waste or disputed waste ?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Yes. If the land owners make out a case then we will give remission.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—In the face of the assurance, I beg to withdraw.

Resolution withdrawn with leave of the House.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan being absent, the following resolution was considered withdrawn.

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14. "This Council recommends to the Government that all unpassed English knowing hands now in service be exempted from the operations of Standing Order No. 1 with a view to give them the benefit of the recent reorganisation of pay and enable them to draw Rs. 25—40 per mensem.

15. Cottage Industries.

Mr E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, I move that "This Council recommends to the Government to organise such cottage industries as are suitable to the various localities throughout the State with a view to provide a leisure time occupation to the people and to increas their earning capacity" Sir, Cochin is an agricultural country. About 70 or 75 per cent of the population according to the recent census are dependent on agriculture and these agriculturists have practically nothing to do for four or five months in the year, for want of a suitable cottage industry. Every country, every responsible country encourages some cottage industry or other. We too have cottage industries in several palces. I don't think it is necessary on my part to impress upon you the necessity of having a suitable subsidiary cottage industry. Due to lack of organisation and indifference, our people are not taking to any such industries. In the southern parts many of them make coir. Even that has proved unremunerative in these days of depression. It will be the duty of the State to organise such cottage industries as are suitable to the various localities and make them earn a little more. I am sure that if every family has one cottage industry to occupy them during the off-season, they will be able to materially increase their average income. Otherwise what happens in these days is that during the time when they have no work they migrate to the towns. They do not get any work there and go back. They waste a lot of time and it will be a sort of conserving national wealth or organising national wealth, if the Government take it upon their shoulders to organise it on a large scale. I do not think a big speech is necessary to commend this resolutiun to you. I therefore request that the House will be pleased to pass this resolution.

Deputy President.—Since nobody comes to second this resolution it is lost.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—I second it.

Deputy President.—No. I was waiting.

Resolution lost for want of a seconder.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan being absent the following reoslution standing in his name was considered withdrawn.

16. This Council recommends to the Government that Examiners in Criminal Courts be given the same scale of pay as Examiners in Civil Courts."

17. Appointment to M. L. C s.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—"This Council recommends to the Government not to give any appointment to the Members

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